

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION REPORT

I. HEADING

Date: March 8, 2000

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START

Subject: Nelson Galvanizing Site
Long Island City, Queens County, New York

POLREP NO.: One (1)

II BACKGROUND

Site No:	6Z
Delivery Order No:	9907-0011
Response Authority:	CERCLA
NPL Status:	N/A
State Notification:	NYSDEC
Action Memorandum Status:	September 30, 1999
Start Date:	January 24, 2000
Completion Date:	Pending
RCRA ID:	NYD001229350

III SITE INFORMATION

The Site is located at 11-02 Broadway in Long Island City, New York. The Site consists of one two-story building located in an area of mixed commercial, residential and light industry. The building is constructed of steel beams, covered with corrugated sheet metal, and is about 60 feet high. The facility is in disrepair, with walls and ceilings falling down. A commercial car leasing business is adjacent to the Site. Both businesses share a common interior wall. The facility has no security. There has been an industrial business on the Site since about 1849. Nelson Galvanizing, Inc. (NG) operated a galvanizing business at the facility from 1967 until 1994.

The EPA removal assessment on June 30, 1999, revealed that there was stored at the Site, in excess of one hundred 55-gallon drums of spent acids and caustic on the premises, along with approximately thirty smaller containers. These drums and containers, many of which were open-top, were stored without regard

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to compatibility. The inspection revealed that some drums of acid have a pH of less than two. In addition to the drummed acids and caustic, there were three large open-top tanks, one holding approximately 40 cubic yards of sulfuric acid sludge, one tank of sodium hydroxide with approximately 900 gallons of liquid and 1800 gallons of sludge, and one tank of zinc ammonium chloride holding approximately 900 gallons.

This is the second federal removal action to be conducted at this Site with the first being a responsible party cleanup under a consent order.

IV RESPONSE INFORMATION

A. Situation

1. Current situation

Neither the PRP nor local agencies had the ability to perform a response mitigation. EPA initiated a CERCLA Removal Action.

2. Removal activities to date

On June 16, 1999, the Emergency and Remedial Response Division received a written request from the Division of Enforcement and Compliance Assistance (DECA) regarding hazardous materials at the Nelson Galvanizing Site, in Long Island City, New York asking that a removal action be considered for this Site.

EPA conducted a removal assessment on June 30, 1999.

The action memo was signed on September 30, 1999 authorizing a mitigation ceiling of \$450,000 and a total project ceiling of \$810,000.

On January 24, 2000 EPA and ERRS mobilized personnel and equipment to the site.

EPA met with the PRP and outlined EPA's work plan for conducting the removal of the wastes. The support zone was set up including the cutting of an access way in the back building wall for a Uniloader.

EPA reviewed the H&S Plan and WRS staged, inventoried and sampled the drums, vats and tanks. Samples from the vats and drum sample composites were sent out for analysis.

EPA sent a 104e letter to the PRP on February 1, 2000.

START prepared the administrative record for the site which was placed for public review in the Queens Borough Public Library at 4020 Broadway, Long Island City, New York.

Five drums of the flammable liquid, methanol, were discovered on site and sampled. These drums belonged to a hot dog vendor renting storage space on the site. Upon being contacted by EPA, the vendor agreed to remove the drums from the premises. The drums were shipped to Gloss-Flo Corp. in Brooklyn, NY on March 13, 2000.

The clean out of the vats was completed with 5 one cubic yard boxes and 146 drums of solids generated from the contents as well as 34 drums of liquids.

Seventy-four original site drums were inventoried and sampled.

The scrap steel which was in one of the vats along with the vats themselves was decontaminated and staged on site.

Bulking and overpacking of the waste drums was completed.

Waste profiles were developed and requests for bids were sent to disposal companies.

The site was demobed on March 8, 2000 pending the receipt of the analytical data and subsequent scheduling of T&D.

3. Enforcement

EPA ORC will negotiate with the PRP for cost recovery.

B. Planned removal activities

Identification, sampling, and disposal of all hazardous materials.

C. Next Steps

Load out all containerized wastes for disposal.

D. Key Issues

The PRP has a history of hazardous materials violations and non-compliance with both EPA and local agencies.

V. COST INFORMATION

The following table contains information on estimated costs for the response investigation through March 8, 2000.

	<u>Amount Budgeted</u>	<u>Cost to Date</u>	<u>Remaining Project Funds</u>
ERRS	\$ 450,000	\$ 157,381	\$ 292,619
START	\$ 100,000	\$ 2,068	\$ 97,932
EPA	\$ 150,000	\$ 23,000	\$ 127,000
TOTAL	\$ 810,000	\$ 182,449	\$ 683,000

The above accounting of expenditures is an estimate based on figures known to the OSC at the time this report was written. The cost accounting provided in this report does not necessarily represent an exact monetary figure, which the EPA may include in any claims for cost recovery.

Final Polrep:___

Further Polreps Forthcoming: X